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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/600,838	06/19/2003	Toshihiko Fukuhara	59,391 (72039)	6359

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EXAMINER
SINGH, SATWANT K

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2625	

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	04/03/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

PTOL-90A (Rev. 10/06)

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/600,838	FUKUHARA ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Satwant K. Singh	2625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *19 June 2003*.

2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b) ☒ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) *1-10* is/are pending in the application.

   4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) *1-10* is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on *19 June 2003* is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.

   Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

   Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

   a) ☒ All   b) ☐ Some *   c) ☐ None of:

   1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

   2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

   3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

   * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
   Paper No(s)/Mail Date *06/19/03, 08/02/05, 03/01/07*.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
   Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6) ☐ Other: _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for

all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described
> as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to
> be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been
> obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which
> said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the
> invention was made.

2.   Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

over Chrisop et al. (US 2001/0025343) in view of Kanematu (US 7,130,066).

3.   Regarding Claim 1, Chrisop et al teach an image processing device

comprising: an image data storage unit for temporarily storing an image data to

be processed (Fig. 1, S110) (store image data to copier memory) (page 3,

paragraph [0031]); an image data destruction unit for destructing the image data

stored in said image data storage unit (Fig. 1, S135, automatically overwrite

copier memory with bit mask) (page 3, paragraph [0031]); and an operation

restricting unit for restricting the operation for processing the image data when

said image data destruction unit destructs the stored image data (page 3,

paragraph [0036]) (concealing information stored in at least one memory) (page

5, Claim 1).

Chrisop et al fail to teach an image processing device comprising: an

operation unit with a display for determining various settings.

Kanematu teaches an image processing device comprising: an operation unit with a display for determining various settings (Fig. 12, UI 251) (deletion of data) (col. 15, lines 50-55, col. 16, lines 4-5).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Chrisop with the teaching of Kanematu to choose to erase the image as a selection on the copier display unit.

4.   Regarding Claim 2, Chrisop et al teach an image processing device, wherein said operation unit comprises a destruction designating unit for demanding said image data destruction unit to destruct the stored image data (Fig. 1, S135, automatically overwrite copier memory with bit mask) (page 3, paragraph [0031]).

5.   Regarding Claim 3, Chrisop et al teach an image processing device, wherein said image data destruction unit destructs a related information required for processing the image data together with the image data stored in said image data storage unit (image data is overwritten) (page 3, paragraph [0031]).

6.   Regarding Claim 4, Chrisop et al teach an image processing device, wherein said operation restricting unit comprises a function to restrict the operation for processing the image data (page 2, paragraph [0017]) (concealing information stored in at least one memory) (page 5, Claim 1).

Chrisop et al fail to teach an image processing device, displaying information related to the restriction on the display of said operation unit.

Kanematu teaches an image processing device, displaying information related to the restriction on the display of said operation unit (Fig. 12, UI 251) (deletion of data) (col. 15, lines 50-55, col. 16, lines 4-5).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Chrisop with the teaching of Kanematu to display the image erasure message on the display of the copier.

Regarding Claim 5, Chrisop et al fail to teach an image processing device, wherein said operation unit comprises a function to cancel the restriction by the operation restricting unit provided to the operation for processing the image data when a predetermined operation has been verified while said operation restricting unit is restricting the operation for processing the image data.

Kanematu teaches an image processing device, wherein said operation unit comprises a function to cancel the restriction by the operation restricting unit provided to the operation for processing the image data when a predetermined operation has been verified while said operation restricting unit is restricting the operation for processing the image data (Fig. 22, cancel button).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Chrisop with the teaching of Kanematu to allow a user to cancel the image data erasure function.

7.   Regarding Claim 6, Chrisop et al teach an image processing device having a scanner function, a printer function and an image data transmission and reception function, capable of processing an image corresponding to a

designated function, said image processing device comprising: an image data storage unit for temporarily storing an image data to be processed to an image data storage region (Fig. 1, S110) (store image data to copier memory) (page 3, paragraph [0031]); an image data destruction unit for destructing said image data storage region (Fig. 1, S135, automatically overwrite copier memory with bit mask) (page 3, paragraph [0031]).

Chrisop et al fail to teach an image processing device comprising: an operation unit with a display for determining various settings; and a notifying unit for notifying the completion of destruction of said image data storage region by said image data destruction unit to a predetermined specific right holder.

Kanematu teaches an image processing device, comprising: an operation unit with a display for determining various settings (Fig. 12, UI 251) (deletion of data) (col. 15, lines 50-55, col. 16, lines 4-5); and a notifying unit for notifying the completion of destruction of said image data storage region by said image data destruction unit to a predetermined specific right holder (Fig. 60, message display box 822) (col. 25, lines 4-6).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Chrisop with the teaching of Kanematu to choose to erase the image as a selection on the copier display unit and to notify the user of the erasure.

8.   Regarding Claim 7, Chrisop et al fail to teach an image processing device, wherein said notifying unit enables a notifying condition to be selected.

Kanematu teaches an image processing device, wherein said notifying unit enables a notifying condition to be selected (Fig. 22, OK or CANCEL).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Chrisop with the teaching of Kanematu allow a user to choose if the data is really to be erased prior to the erasure.

9.   Regarding Claim 8, Chrisop teach an image processing device, wherein said notifying condition of said notifying unit is selected between an output using a printer function and an output performed by transmitting a notification image data via a network (present invention adopted for use with any digital document processor) (page 4, paragraph [00414]).

10.   Regarding Claim 9, Chrisop et al fail to teach an image processing device wherein said notifying unit outputs a notice corresponding to a selected notifying condition when all areas of said image data storage region of said image storage unit have been destructed completely by said image data destruction unit.

Kanematu teaches an image processing device wherein said notifying unit outputs a notice corresponding to a selected notifying condition when all areas of said image data storage region of said image storage unit have been destructed completely by said image data destruction unit (Fig. 60, message display box 822) (col. 25, lines 4-6).

Therefore it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined the teachings of Chrisop with the teaching of Kanematu to notify the user of the erasure of image data.

11.   Regarding Claim 10, Chrisop teaches an image processing device, wherein said image data destruction unit comprises a function to destruct a related information required for processing the image data together with the image data stored in said image data storage unit (image data is overwritten) (page 3, paragraph [0031]).

Conclusion

12.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Morita (US 2002/0054326) discloses a method and apparatus for image formation.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Satwant K. Singh whose telephone number is (571) 272-7468. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Friday 8am - 4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David K. Moore can be reached on (571) 272-7437. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from

the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information

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system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-

free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service

Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-

9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.
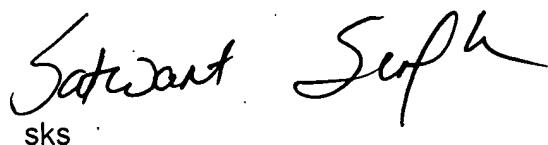
Satwant K. Singh
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